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M. B. BATEHAM, ROCHESTER,
DANIEL LEE, BUFFALO, } EDITORS.
T. C. PETERS, DARIEN,

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"HAPPY NEW YEAR!"

With this number we commence a new year, and with it we tender the compliments of the season, and our grateful acknowledgments to our friends and patrons—especially to the numerous correspondents who have rendered us, and the public, such valuable services; and to those who have kindly assisted in procuring subscribers.

The embarrassments of the times, and a number of other circumstances, operated very adversely to the success of this paper one year ago, and caused the proprietors to suffer loss by its publication. These difficulties do not now exist, and the publishers feel the utmost assurance, that with their present arrangements the former friends of the paper will make such efforts to extend its circulation, this winter, as will leave no room to doubt their determination to sustain an agricultural paper in Western New York—the *Genesee Country*, which has become so extensively and favorably known abroad by means of its "Genesee Farmer."

Editorial Arrangement for 1844.

M. B. BATEHAM, Rochester; assisted by

DANIEL LEE, Buffalo, associate editor of the Commercial Advertiser; and

T. C. PETERS, Darien, late President of the Genesee Co. Agricultural Society.

The publishers flatter themselves that this arrangement will add much to the value of the paper, especially to farmers of Western New York; and they respectfully solicit the friends of agriculture to use their influence and efforts, at the present time, to increase its circulation among their friends and neighbors.

The mechanical department of the paper will also be improved, and several numbers of *double size* will be given during the year; according to the amount of success. It will be issued promptly on the 1st of each month, and will contain the most recent reports of the Markets.

Only Forty Cents.

It will be seen that the price of this paper is now *only forty cents per year*, when five copies are ordered at once. Cannot every one of the present subscribers obtain at least four more, and han l $2 to the postmaster for us? We believe they can, easily. ☞ *Will* YOU try? Now is the time. Send orders early, so that we can tell how many to print.

Post-Masters

Are entitled to our warmest thanks for past favors, and we trust they will continue to afford us that aid without which we could not hope to succeed. We print a few hundred extra copies of this number, and send them for gratuitous circulation. We hope all who receive them will see that they are made good use of, and report to us as early as possible.

Western Money—Old Debts.

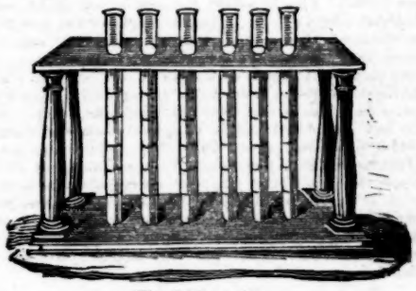
Bills of all specie-paying banks will be received at par. A few agents and post-masters, in Ohio and elsewhere, are owing us small sums which should have been paid long ago. Will you see to it.

The Public Press.

We tender our acknowledgments to the numerous editors who have published our prospectus, or otherwise noticed this paper. (See last page.) Those who have done so, or will now notice the arrangements for the new volume, shall receive it for the year without an exchange. Editors of agricultural, scientific, and literary journals, and city newspapers, who generously give us an exchange, will accept our sincere thanks. If they wish more than one copy of our paper, they will please inform us.

Reduction of Postage.

Efforts are being made to obtain a reform of the present rates of postage. We hope they will succeed, for as the law now stands it is a most unjust and oppressive tax on the community—very unwise and unnecessary. We received a letter from England, a few days since, consisting of three pieces in an envelope, the whole weighing less than half an ounce, and the postage from Boston was just *one dollar!* We hope our English friends will remember hereafter that our *sapient* rulers charge postage on *each piece*, including also the *envelope*.



The Lactometer.

We promised last month to give a description of the common lactometer, or instrument for testing the quality of milk, and ascertaining the proportion which the cream bears to the milk of any particular cow, or the produce of a whole dairy. This instrument is represented above. It consists of a mahogany frame, 10 inches long, 4 wide, and 8 high, in which stand six glass tubes, in a manner resembling candle-moulds. These tubes are about 11 inches long, and half an inch in diameter inside. Just 10 inches from the bottom, a fine line is marked round the tubes with the point of a diamond, and from this mark three inches downwards is graduated into inches and tenths of inches. At milking, these tubes are filled exactly to the upper line, (one from each cow,) and after standing twelve hours, the quantity of cream which has risen to the surface is shown by the degrees of the scale; each degree representing one per cent. of the whole. Thus, if there should appear 1 in. and 2 tenths, it would be 12 degrees; or the milk would give 12 per cent. of cream.

☞ "*Frye's lactometer*"—(*humbug*)—which we exposed last month, and which is represented as newly invented at the special request of the American Institute, we find is of a kin with "Bommer's Method." On looking over the Albany Cultivator for 1840, we find this instrument accurately described, in a communication signed B., dated from Montgomery Co., Md. The writer states that he received one from *France*, and that two of them were then in possession of Gen. John Mason, of Clermont Co., Virginia.

Use and Preparation of the Food of Vegetables.

To understand the process of nature by which certain elements of earth, air, and water are transformed into living plants, and the best method of preparing these elements so as to produce the largest crops at the least expense, are objects worthy of the careful and profound study of every cultivator of the soil.

If we take 100 pounds of ripe hay, oats, wheat, or corn, including the roots, stems, and seed, and burn them carefully in the open air, we shall have only about 3 per cent. of alkaline earths left, most of which can be dissolved in water. If we burn a pound of candles, or a pound of oil, whether animal or vegetable, the whole of these substances (which are truly "the fat of the land") will be transformed into invisible air and vapor. The atmosphere and water are nature's great storehouse for preserving an exhaustless supply of vegetable food. By *respiration*, *fermentation*, and *rotting*, all organic structures are transformed into gases and soluble salts. It is from the lime dissolved in the ocean that the oyster elaborates its shell, and the coral insect rears its massive mountains of coral rock. It is mainly from the phosphate of lime held in solution in its mother's milk, taken from her food, that the sucking calf elaborates its solid bone. Without lime to be dissolved in her gastric juices, and taken into her circulating blood, the hen can make no solid shell to her egg. The unnursed infants in the great cities of London and Paris, brought up without milk, and fed on arrow-root and other food that contains little or no lime, have soft, cartilaginous, rickety bones, simply because neither animals nor plants can make *something* from *nothing*.

As a general rule it is strictly true, and moreover it is a truth of great practical importance, that a feeble, diseased stem in wheat, liable to rust, &c., and a shrunken berry, are owing to some removable defect in the food of the plant. So different are the essential elements of the seed of this plant from those of its straw, that it is practicable to raise wheat that will yield twice as much grain in weight as there is weight of straw, taking it from the root. That it is also practicable to grow wheat which will give five times as much straw as grain, most farmers know by sad experience.

On page 254 of Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, 1842, Gen. Harmon, of Wheatland, states, that "In 1803 Pettin Sheffer, Esq., of this town, harvested 40 acres of wheat grown on the Genesee flats, that produced 62½ bushels per acre." What elements did nature provide, and where did she get them, for the growth of such a crop? Manifestly they came from the mineral and vegetable matter washed down from the highlands above. These elements are just as abundant now as they were in 1803, or at the close of the creation. Having found out, within the last 40 years; since Mr. Sheffer harvested his famous crop, what these vegetable elements are, and how to combine them under more favorable arrangements for the production of *cultivated* plants than nature has anywhere done, men of science have greatly exceeded the above large product. From nature's crab-apple, that weighs less than an ounce, science has at last grown fruit weighing twenty times as much, or 2,000 per cent. more than the original!

By the use of charcoal and lime, a Mr. Pell, of Goshen, in this State, has harvested this season at the rate of 78 bushels 24 quarts of wheat per acre. The ground was accurately measured by a surveyor's chain, and the grain in a sealed half-bushel, and the statements are all sworn to by two reputable men. I notice this triumph of science with the more pleasure, from the fact that I have long and zealously urged the use of these abundant elements upon the attention of the readers of the papers for which I have written.

It is more than twenty years since I first began to use pulverized charcoal to absorb the gases given off by decomposing vegetable and animal matter, urine, and the like, to be applied to garden and field crops. Its value in correcting the taint in meat, and purifying rain-water in filtering-cisterns, led me to believe that it would be just the thing to absorb the food of plants from the atmosphere, into which so much passes, and hold it about their roots in a condition that neither dew, rain, snow, frost, nor the heat of the sun, would injure it or take it away. To labor hard to save and draw out manure on to one's fields, and then lose 60 or 80 per cent. of this vegetable food by its solution in water, and washing away to form something like the Genesee flats in the bottom of Lake Erie, I never regarded as very good economy—which, by the way, is the soul of good husbandry.

A pint of human urine contains ammonia enough to make,

with the other necessary elements, 60 pounds of good wheat. Charcoal will absorb this liquid, and render it quite inoffensive to the olfactories of the nose. The direct application of urine to the soil, after the German practice, is bad economy, unless the soil contain a large portion of humus, or vegetable mold, for its tenacious retention. It is a better plan to have a reservoir filled with pounded charcoal under the stable floor, or near to the stable, into which the liquid excretions of all animals should be conducted like cider from the press. When nearly, or quite saturated with urine, this coal will be manure of extraordinary power and durability—for nothing in the soil, but the roots of growing plants, will be likely to extract a particle of this vegetable food.

After wheat, corn, or grass has taken up all this nourishment, the coal (unlike lime, which has parted with its carbonic acid in the same way) is insoluble in water, and remains, as in a filtering cistern, to absorb and hold, for the benefit of the growing plant, more vegetable food from every rain that falls to the earth. For be it remembered, that dew, rain, and snow—the poor man's manure, bring back to the earth all the gaseous elements given off by all the fires, respiration, and other decomposition of solid and liquid matter.

For the same reason, coal should be largely used in the formation of compost heaps. And where the farmer has straw which he can use to make beds for his horses and cattle in the stable, this, with a quantity of coal pounded with a flail, can be spread upon the stable floor, to absorb all liquid excretions. All these excrementitious substances should be kept under shelter. Wood ashes, lime, and muck, or vegetable mold, are valuable ingredients in all compost heaps. The coal stratum should be placed between the lime and the manure, and the whole should be covered with turf or more coal.

The analysis of soils abounding in fragments of limestone rocks shows a marked deficiency of this important element in their composition. The reason of this perhaps unexpected deficiency I will now explain:

Disintegrated limestone is decomposed by the vital action of plants, and its carbonic acid is taken up by their roots. It will then combine with more of this gas which abounds in the air and soil, and will again give it out to growing vegetables. It is in this way that plaster (sulphate of lime) after it has parted with its oil of vitriol, often produces such wonderful effects, although the amount applied is less than one forty thousandth part of the soil from which plants draw their nourishment. The action of the sulphuric acid, as I understand the matter, I will not stop to elucidate. But I wish to fix public attention upon the circumstance, that when lime in the soil has parted with its acid, whether sulphuric or carbonic, and especially the latter, it is soluble in water, and hence very liable to be washed out of the soil by rains, &c. All water that has passed through a soil possessing sufficient lime to be good wheat land, is *hard*, or holds lime in solution of which it has robbed the soil. The same is true, in a less degree, with regard to leaching of the soil, and its loss of allumina, potash, and soda. The cultivation of the earth, without allowing any vegetables to grow upon it, would exhaust its fertility very rapidly.

The remedy for this is, to cultivate less land in grain crops, and cultivate it far better; to remove all excess of water by draining; to plough deep, and turn up to the sun virgin earth from below, and apply thereon manure, coal, lime, ashes, and salt. Instead of applying large quantities of quick lime at distant periods, it is far better to apply a less quantity and often, to make up for the loss that occurs from its being dissolved in water, and carried with it into rivers and the ocean.

Leached ashes are valuable, when applied to grass lands; and are far from being worthless on wheat, rye, oats, and barley—all of which need their silicate of potash, to give them a good, firm stem. Grass and wheat know as well how to convey the apparently insoluble elements in leached ashes up into their organic structure, as did the trees from which these ashes were obtained.

Buffalo, Dec. 17, 1843. D. L.

☞ "Gentlemen, everybody knows that at the foundation of all that is important in human life, lies this great business—the cultivation of the earth. If it were for his sins that man was condemned to till the land, it was the most merciful judgment that Almighty benignity could have inflicted upon him."—*Webster.*

Results of Experiments.—Scientific Farming.

The following statements, from the *N. Y. Tribune*, afford a good illustration of the importance of scientific experiments in agriculture, and the necessity there is that Experimental Farms should be instituted for the purpose. In relation to the experiment with lime and charcoal, it is important that the previous character of the soil should be accurately understood; for on some soils these substances would be of very little use. It is also important for us to know what is the difference in effect between the oyster-shell lime and common stone lime. We apprehend it is not great.—Ed.

"We remember to have been much struck at the recent exhibition at Niblo's, under the auspices of the American Idstitute, with the remarkably fine specimens of cereal grains and of garden vegetables, from the farm of Mr. Pell, and can now understand their marked superiority.

"At a meeting of the *Farmers' Club*, Mr. Meigs stated that Mr. Pell, of Ulster County, made a statement at the Repository relative to his experimental farming, from which it appeared that he found benefit from the use of oyster-shell lime, using 300 bushels per acre. That in addition he had employed 25 bushels of charcoal per acre. That on this charcoal dressing he obtained, last summer, *seventy-eight bushels and twenty-four quarts of wheat per acre.* That he had 20,000 apple trees in full bearing. That in dry weather he had applied lime freely at the roots—found that this preserved the verdure and growth, when the neighborhood was much injured by drought. That he had cut wheat two or three weeks sooner than his neighbors; and when the root of the straw began to turn brown, and when, by the pressure of the finger and thumb on the grain, the milk would fly out. That this wheat weighed 64 pounds per bushel. That he sold it for seed at one dollar, when ordinary wheat was 7s. That he cut clover and housed it on the same day—sprinkling about a bushel of salt over every load. That this clover retained its green color, and was preferred by cattle to that saved the old way. That he dipped a sponge in ammonia, and applied it to the worm nests on his trees, and banished them completely. That he has sent 4,000 barrels of apples to market, many of which go to London, and there sell for 9 dollars per barrel. That he employed a man from Vermont to engraft 10,000 apple trees, for $150; that this man brought a company of men, of whom two sawed off the proper limbs, two made the proper incisions (two of them) in the branch, two more inserted the grafts, two more applied a compost of wax, tallow, and rosin. That out of the 20,000 grafts, not one failed."

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Since the foregoing was in type, we found the following in the Albany Cultivator:

"EXPERIMENT WITH CHARCOAL.

"Messrs. Editors,—I mentioned to you last spring, that I had sown 52 bushels of charcoal dust to the acre, on wheat, and would give you the result of the experiment. In order that my promise might be fulfilled, I selected a corner of a 25 acre field of wheat, containing by survey two rods. The grain was harvested while in the milk, on the 17th of July; thrashed, cleaned, and measured on the 21st, yielding 31 quarts and 1 pint, or 78 bushels and 24 quarts to the acre. As the above fact may appear incredible to many wheat growers, I enclose the survey, and certificates of two of my men, who measured it.

"I have grown cuttings of the Camelia japonica, soft wooded geraniums, cactus, wax plants, &c., in pure charcoal dust, without any admixture of earth; likewise corn, beet, carrot, and other seeds, and believe it to be the most valuable substance now known as manure, being pure, incorruptible, and lasting.

"Yours respectfully, Robert L. Pell.

"*Pelham, Ulster Co., Nov.* 20, 1843."

"I, M. W. Powell, surveyor, hereby certify that I have measured the ground herein described, beginning at an apple tree, and running a northwest course 95 links, thence a southwest course 50 links, thence east 30 links to a line to the north angle, thence east 70 links to the place of beginning; the line from the base to the north angle being 26 links, containing 2 rods, which is a portion of R. L. Pell's wheat, lot No. 2. M. W. Powell.

Affirmed before me, on the 15th day of July, 1843.
M. M. Keeler, Justice of the Peace.

We, Patrick Farren and Leonard Latten, hereby certify that we gathered, thrashed, cleaned, and measured the wheat grown on the above-described two rods of ground, belonging to Robert L. Pell, Esq., of Pelham, Ulster Co., and the yield was 31 *quarts* and 1 *pint*, dry measure: we believe, if the gleanings had been threshed, there would have been one bushel.

Patrick Farrell,
Leonard Latten.

The labor of an editor's life is not so much what he has to write, as what he has to read.

Old Genesee yet.

The largest yield of wheat that I have heard of this year was in Alexander. Mr. James Lewis, of that town, raised, from 2 acres and 70 rods of ground, 140 bushels, clean for seed, and 8¼ bushels shrunk wheat—60 pounds to the bushel. This is a trifle over 60 bushels and 3 pecks to the acre. The wheat was thrashed and accurately measured. That there might be no mistake, I requested a friend to procure from Mr. Lewis a statement of the whole of his crop—method of cultivation, &c. I will remark, that I am personally acquainted with him, and that he is a man of strict integrity and veracity.

The whole field in wheat was 17 acres and 71 rods; principally bottom lands on the Tonawanda Creek, and of course alluvial soil. The previous crop was corn and spring wheat; no manure applied to present or previous crop.

The ground was "summer-fallowed," ploughed twice in the season, and dragged three times. It was sown from the 5th to the 10th of September, broadcast, one bushel and a half to the acre. The seed was the "Red Chaff Yellow Flint." It was harvested from the 1st to the 6th of Aug., 1843. The wheat was thrashed, and accurately measured. The whole product was 677 bushels clean for seed, and 70½ bushels shrunk: equal to 42¾ bushels per acre.

The above 2 acres and 70 rods were taken in a body, from a portion of the field.

Here we see, that if the soil be in a proper condition, it will produce 60 bushels of wheat; because it has been done in our midst. There *is* no mystery about it.

Let us see what would be the result if every wheat-grower in the county would make as good a crop as Mr. Lewis—say 60 bushels to the acre. In the territory now embraced in Old Genesee there was raised, in 1839, 629,000 bushels of wheat. Allow the average yield to have been 25 bushels to the acre, to produce that amount. There was in wheat then, that year, 25,160 acres. If the product had been 60 bushels to the acre, the amount of the crop would have been 1,509,600 bushels, making a difference, at 6s. per bushel, of $735,000 in our county only—a very handsome sum to lose for the want of a little skill and care. Fifty bushels of wheat ought to be considered as the minimum yield per acre throughout the county; and it is in the power of every farmer to bring his crop up to that, the contingencies of the seasons to be excepted. We must endeavor to overcome Western competition by increased attention to the culture of wheat; and if every wheat-grower who reads this will communicate the result of his experience, we shall soon have a mass of facts of the highest importance.

Darien, Dec. 4, 1843. T. C. PETERS.

Two Years' Experience in the Silk Culture.

Mr. Bateham,—I have been requested to send you an account of my experience in the silk business; and as I have a number of friends in Western New York who may be anxious to know how I have succeeded, I will attempt to comply with the request. First, however, as an apology for the manner in which this is written, I must inform you that I am over 70 years of age, almost blind, and entirely ignorant of the rules of grammar. I shall therefore depend upon you to correct or reject, as you think proper.

The latter part of April, 1842, I planted 12,000 Morus multicaulis trees, one year old on 1½ acres of land. A few days later I purchased 6,000 cuttings, and also cut off the tops of the young trees, and planted them all. The cuttings nearly all failed; but the trees did well. On the 4th of July I hatched out 1½ ounces of silk-worm eggs. The worms were fed with leaves from the young trees, till after the fourth moulting, when they were mostly fed with sprouts, or young shoots, cut from the same trees. They began to wind on the 14th of August, and produced nearly six bushels of good cocoons. Another batch of half this quantity of eggs was hatched about the 4th of August, and began to spin the 5th of September. These were fine, healthy-looking worms till they began to spin, when they became diseased and died; so that I only obtained half a bushel of cocoons, and these of a poor quality. These worms were fed with leaves first, then small branches, as before. The trees were all cut once over, and part of them twice.

Last spring (1843) my trees appeared half dead; but I commenced cutting them, and after a little warm weather nearly all revived, and grew finely. On the 28th of June I exposed 3 ounces of very fine-looking eggs, and they hatch-

ed well. I had a host of worms and plenty of foliage, with sufficient room, and my apparatus was all in first-rate order. I gathered the leaves and fed the worms myself, excepting the last 6 or 8 days before they began to spin, when I had help. Finer looking worms I never saw, until some of them began to spin, which was the 18th of August, and now they became diseased, and died in great numbers daily. After laboring two or three weeks, taking care of the sick and removing the dead worms, in the midst of filth and horrible stench, I obtained *three bushels* of cocoons. These were sold to the agent of the State Prison at Auburn.

Another batch of 2 ounces of eggs was hatched about the 1st of August. These, also, were well taken care of, and after another siege of nursing the sick and burying the dead worms, I obtained *three pounds* of cocoons, worth little or nothing.

My feeding-shelves were made by crossing twine on a frame, and covering it with straw. A roof of cotton cloth was placed over each, to protect the worms from filth, and straw was placed under this covering for them to spin in. These shelves were placed in tiers, five in height. My worms were all of the Pea-nut variety. I used artificial heat, at times, and regulated it by the thermometer, the past season, and gave as much air as possible, night and day.

My multicaulis trees grew astonishingly. They were all killed down to the ground last winter; but some that were not cut during summer attained the height of 6 to 7 feet, and many had three to six stems to a root. But I have now ploughed them all up, and sowed the ground to wheat.

My daughter, Mrs. Eager, has done something at the silk business for about ten years past; but for the two past years her success has been very little better than mine. She succeeded very well on a small scale for a number of years, while feeding only from the white mulberry; but many of her trees of this kind having died, she fed partly from the multicaulis the two past years, and her worms became diseased, and died in the same manner as mine.

PETER GOODSELL.

Dewitt, Onondaga Co., N. Y., Nov., 1843.

Remarks.—Editors of agricultural papers are sometimes accused of being unwilling to publish accounts adverse to the success of enterprises which they have advocated; but this is not true of us, for we have repeatedly urged our readers to send us the results of their experiments, whether favorable or otherwise. Our object is to promulgate *truth*, and to do this, it is necessary for us to learn both sides of undetermined questions.

The foregoing case of failure, most of our readers are aware, is by no means a singular one. We have published accounts of several like it, and heard of many more. But what do such cases prove? That the silk business cannot be prosecuted with advantage in this country? Or, that Morus multicaulis trees are not suitable for feeding the worms, and therefore all who have them should follow Mr. Goodsell's example, and plough them up? *By no means.* For while some persons have failed, many have succeeded perfectly, with the same climate and the same kind of trees. All that these cases prove, then, is, *that more knowledge is required on the subject.* Many have engaged in the business without taking any pains to first learn the nature and habits of this wonderful insect, or the causes that induce its disease, notwithstanding so much light has been thrown upon this subject, of late, through the public press. Men of science, patriotism, and *perseverance*, have zealously engaged in this enterprize within a few years past, and they are constantly publishing the results of their experience and success. The enthusiasm that was manifested, and the information that was elicited, at the recent Silk Convention in New York, afford good evidence that the business is progressing rapidly, and will unquestionably succeed. If any of our readers have engaged in the business without success, and feel inclined to give it up, we entreat them to procure and read the proceedings of this convention, before they follow the example of Mr. Goodsell and destroy their mulberry trees.—Ed. N. G. Farmer.

Silk Culture in Monroe County.

The following schedule is from the Report of the Board of Supervisers of this county, and exhibits the number and names of applicants for the State bounty on cocoons and reeled silk for the present year, with the quantity produced or reeled by each, and the amount of bounty received. It shows a great increase over former years, both in the number of applicants and in the amount of products; and it speaks well for the success of this important branch of domestic industry.

Names and Residence.	Lbs. and oz. of Cocoons.	Lbs. and oz. of Reeled Silk.	Premiums for Cocoons.	Premiums for Reeled Silk.	Total Premiums.
Phebe H. Carpenter, Rochester,	10 08		$1 58		$1 58
Clarissa Robbins, Penfield,	76 08		11 42		11 42
Hiram Robbins, Penfield,		6 04		$3 12½	312½
Justus Beardsley, Perinton,	139 04		20 88		20 88
Abishai Goodell, Ditto,	90 06		13 50		13 50
Hardy Woodruff, Pittsford,	19 08		2 93		2 93
Gershom Burtiss, Henrietta,	12 14		1 93		1 93
Luc. O. Hill, Mendon,	114 12	2 10	17 25	1 31	18 56
Nehemiah Phillips, Ditto,	37 03	3 13	5 59	1 90	7 49
Anna De Wolf, Ditto,	22 04	2 01	3 30	1 03	4 33
Joel Stimson, Ditto,	64 01		9 61		9 61
Mrs. Wells Chapin, Ditto,	17 04	1 12	2 59	88	3 47
John Adams, Ogden,	219 08	9 03	32 90	4 59	37 49
Wm. B. Brown, Ditto,	176 02		26 42		26 42
Henry Frink, Ditto,	41 03	4 14	6 20	2 44	8 64
Edwin Stanley, Ditto,	196 04	4 10	29 44	2 31	31 75
" " "		18 07		9 22	9 22
Caleb R. Adams, Ditto,	11 00		1 65		1 65
Isaac Foster, Ditto,	43 10		6 53		6 53
Phineas Smith, Ditto,	12 00	4 08	1 80	2 25	4 05
Mary Merriman, Sweden,	41 02	1 04	6 22	62	6 84
D. & T. Richmond, Ditto,	269 06		40 35		40 35
Hiram Howe, Ditto,	166 00		24 90		24 90
John Merriam, Ditto,	7 06		1 05		1 05
Abner Wakelee, Irondequoit,	30 12		4 61		4 61
Mrs. Wm. Griffith, Rochester,	56 13		8 52		8 52
Theodore Backus, Ditto,	10 13	1 04	1 63	62	2 25
W. W. Reid, Ditto,	92 02		13 82		13 82
M. Garret, Gates.	12 00		1 80		1 80
John Adams, Ogden,		17 04		8 62	8 62
Joel Stimson, Menden,	40 00		6 00		6 00
Seneca Reed, Greece,	105 00	31 05	15 75	15 65	31 40
M. P. Parker, Ogden,	43 10		6 54		6 54
Ziba Curtis, Webster,	69 08		10 42		10 42
Amelia Hover, Ditto,	9 00		1 35		1 35
Total,	2256 10	10903	338 48	54 55	393 04
Abstract of the Reports for three years.					
Year 1841, ...	1538 14	29 04	230 78	14 72	245 50
" 1842, ...	1695 09	98 11	254 28	49 36	303 64
" 1843, ...	2256 10	10903	338 48	54 57	393 04
Total,	5491 01	237 2	823 54	11864	942 18

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Merino and Saxony Wool.

M. B. Bateham, Esq.

Dear Sir.—I promised, in reply to a query of yours, to ascertain what proportion of the weight of Merino wool is made up of "*gum, greese, &c.*" I had proposed for some time to institute such an inquiry, because if the Merino fleece owes its superiority in weight over the Saxon, merely to such a cause, one of the main points in favor of the Merino is lost.

I am truly surprised at the result of my inquiries, in relation to the shrinkage of *all* wool, in scouring. I have consulted several manufacturers of reputation, and they do not greatly differ,—though Mr. Lawrence, from whom I quote, places the loss in scouring higher than any other.—From motives of delicacy, I do not choose to quote from but one, and I select Mr. Lawrence, as he is one of the most noted manufacturers in the United States, as well as a man of high character for probity and intelligence.

He says:—Oct. 16th., "American *Saxony* wool washed in the usual way will shrink from 33 to 37 per cent. We have just scoured Mr. Morell's wool of Tompkins county, and it yields 66¼ lbs. to the 100. *The finest sort yielded but 62½ lbs.* This is considered one of the best flocks of Saxon sheep in Western New York, and the condition of the wool was very good indeed. American Merino wool *washed in the usual mode* will shrink 40 to 45 per cent, say an average of 42 per cent. This *is more loss than most manufacturers would name*, but our experience justifies the statement."

In another letter (Oct. 23,) he says:—"The difference in the shrinkage of Saxony and Merino wool is from 5 to 7½ per cent., when *equally well washed* on the back. The "dark ends" or "crust" on Merino wool do no injury to the staple, but cause it to shrink more than if the ends were clean."

I perhaps should say, Mr. Lawrence places the difference between the Saxon and Merino wool, higher than any other manufacturer whom I have consulted.

So, my dear Sir, if you will deduct 42 per cent. from the fleeces of the yearling Merino buck and ewe, which you saw in my yard, (which two fleeces weighed 13 lbs. 12 oz.) you have the question answered which "you forgot to ask me, when at my house."

If your curiosity prompts you farther, if you will deduct 35 per cent. from 5 lbs.. (which would more than equal the everage of a yearling Saxon buck and ewe's fleeces, of the finest quality,) you will be enabled to form an opinion of the relative value of the fleeces of these different varieties of sheep.

Other points of difference between these breeds, it is not my present purpose to press. I care not who, nor how many choose to breed Saxons. There is room for all. I abhor all controversy. Controversies on these topics are too *odorous* of the *pocket*. However coolly commenced, they end, as I have learned from more than one bitter experience, in alienation and anger, even between the most tried friends.

Besides, Bateham, there are few all goods, or all bads among brutes or men, in this little world of ours. When I find a doctor who has discovered a *panacea*, I distrust him. When a farmer tells me he has an animal or a breed, which combines every excellence under Heaven, I set him down as *interested* or *visionary*.

I have seen valuable Saxon sheep—have owned them. I believe none on this side of the Atlantic ever had a more valuable buck and a few ewes of this variety, than I once had from the flock of Mr. Grove. Official and other engagements called me much from home; my sheep were entrusted to hirelings; I found that I must provide me a variety that would bear all sorts of ill usage; I therefore abandoned the Saxons. Show me a man like Henry D. Grove—like our ever entertaining friend L. A. Morrell, men who in addition to suitable accommodations, give a *personal* attention and care to their sheep, and *they* have no difficulty in rearing Saxon and rendering them profitable. If I am not mistaken Mr. Grove has reared from 80 to 90, and I think a higher per centage of lambs. Mr. Grove has no extra accommodations, nor does he pamper his sheep. But he feeds them at the *right time*—the *right quantity*. He does every thing *uniformly*. In a word, he is a Shepherd—and he gives a *personal* attention to his sheep.

The Saxons are evidently going out of repute. Fine wool must always be reared. As the amount diminishes, the market will improve. It may then be profitable—possibly the most profitable for such men as have choice flocks of Saxons, who have suitable accommodations, and who can see to their sheep personally, to adhere to the Saxons. At all events it may be best for them to continue the experiment a year or two longer.

By the by, I am keeping up my attempt to "get up" something out of my Merino and South Down cross, "*Nous verrons*," as Richie says, or as Burns has it,—

"It may turn out a sang—it may a sermon."

I have good materials to try the experiment with, "any way." I feel no *certainty* on one side—on the other, I do not value a fig the croaking of these eternal praters about "*purity of blood.*" *You* know that I have animals of every description, down even to the poultry, which are thorough bred. But I always have been engaged in *crossing* and have always found *advantage* in it." What *loyal* subjects, what good strong believers in the "divine right of kings," these ultra *blood* men, would make! But enough for now. Yours truly.

HENRY S. RANDALL.

Cortland Village, December, 1843.

Farmers' Errors—Neglect of Indian Corn.

I know a farmer who rents his land on shares. His share of the corn this year, owing to wretched culture, would not fatten pork enough to feed his family, so that he was compelled to buy his poor tenant's share. His poor tenant, in turn, is satisfied to earn his pork by days' works, chopping cord-wood, &c., while he neglects the land he pretends to work on shares.

Many farmers buy poor shorts at the mill, to feed; while they have acres upon acres of waste and half-tilled land, and manure and straw two years old in their barn-yards. Ask these men why they don't plant corn, and they will tell you that they did plant, but that the season did not suit, and the crop was short. But the facts will show, that the shortness was in the farming, and through that alone it fastened upon the crop. Now, I have planted corn every year of the last twenty, and I never had, in any one season, less than at the rate of 70 bushels to the acre. I have frequently got as much from six square rods of ground as some farmers raised the same season on an acre. The se-

cret of my success is, fall or winter ploughing on a clay loam, plenty of unfermented manure, early planting, and great attention to weeding and stirring the soil the first week after the corn is up. It is neglect during this first week that *stunts* the farmer's crop, keeping it behind hand, until that dry season commences with which nature perfects the crop whose early growth has been promoted by the hoe of the husbandman. S. W.

Manufactures in Western New York.

In Buffalo, Rochester, and all the western villages, manufactures of various kinds are now extending in a manner hitherto unprecedented in the annals of any other country, New England excepted.

The manufacture of white lead, at Buffalo, is only one item in the number of those articles which is hereafter to reduce the revenue of the Erie Canal on its upward tolls. The day is at hand when many articles of manufacture which now go from the coast to the interior will be sent to the east for a market.

Was it not for the home market, at this time, for the provisions of the farmer of Western New York, he would have to dispense with many comforts, and all luxuries; as it is the mechanic interest at home now gives that success to the agricultural which no distant market, either domestic or foreign, can ever hope to afford. The friends of free trade will say, that a healthy reduced currency, renewed industry, Christian self-denial, and low prices for the necessaries of life, have brought about this result. While the man of restrictions will contend, that a *protective tariff* on imports is the panacea which has once more set the wheels in motion. Be this as it may, Western New York is now evidently growing more and more independent of the east; and despite the cry for Eastern capital, we are still progressing in real wealth, by virtue of our own industry quite as fast as is consistent with the permanent, healthy growth of Western New York. S. W.

British Statistics.

Enlightened England.—The total population of Great Britain, on the 6th of June, 1841, was 18,444,434. England, 14,995,158; Wales, 911,603; Scotland, 2,620,184. It appears by the marriage registers, that only 67 men and 51 women, out of every 100, can write their names. The amount appropriated by the Government, in 1841, for the education of the people, was £31,112. 2s.—equal to about 10 cents for each child between the ages of 5 and 15 years.

The average increase of population for the ten years ending the 7th June, 1841, was 603 persons *per day*, or 220,140 per annum,—nearly one-half of whom are growing up in gross ignorance, if the statistics furnished by their census be true.

Important Fact.—It appears, by the late census of England and Wales, that there are 3,450,000 acres of waste land in England, and 530,000 acres in Wales, capable of cultivation,

The great abundance of idle capital, and the low rate of interest, hold out great inducements to improve those wastes, and it will not be long before they are in a high state of cultivation. Under such circumstances, is it reasonable to even hope for a market there for our breadstuffs? Besides, if that land is once in cultivation, they may open their ports to the free admission of grain with perfect impunity, for there will never be any demand for foreign produce. They will have a surplus of their own.

Rent of Land.—The average annual value of the rental per statute acre of land in England is 18s. 10d., or about $4 65. In Wales, 9s. 5d. or $2 35. That is, the average annual rent in England is equal to the interest on $67 per acre, at 7 per cent. This is exclusive of taxes, which in poor-rates, tithes, &c., must be half as much more; so that the tenant pays annually the interest of $100, at 7 per cent., per acre, for the use of his land. Who could do it in this country, and lay up money? P.

A Sizeable Porker.—Our friend C. P. Turner, of Batavia, sold to D. Burbanks, of this city, a few days since, a Leicestershire hog, two years old, that weighed, when dressed, 581 lbs. It was raised by D. S. Smith, of Middlebury, Genesee Co., and brought $22,50.

Farmers, let it be remembered, that in laying in your stock of winter fodder, a little too much is just enough. Starving animals, at any time, is a most miserable policy.

New Genesee Farmer.

ROCHESTER, JANUARY, 1844.

Mr. Colman informs us, in a recent letter, that he has sent several more communications for our paper than have appeared in its columns. They have not been received by us, and we cannot conceive how they should have miscarried. We hope to receive more during the present year. He does not state definitely what time the first number of his Tour will be ready, but that two numbers will be completed by spring.

Ploughs and Plough-Makers.—We have received a communication from Mr. Codding on the construction of ploughs, which contains some just remarks on that subject, but, we think, more likely to promote private than public benefit. It represents the shell wheel as a useless addition, provided the plough is properly constructed; and labors to prove that Codding's American Plough is almost, if not absolutely, perfect. It partakes too much of the nature of an advertisement for insertion, but we may give a part of it next month.

Sybil.—We are truly grateful to this lady for her favors, but regret that we are not capable of appreciating her communication, and we fear most of our readers would think it not strictly appropriate to our columns. If she will permit us to hand it to one of the other papers in the city, we dare say it will be well received.

"*A Friend and Constant Reader*" shall receive attention next month. Did he read the article on "Wintering Stock" last month? If so, let him read that on the "use and preparation of food" &c. in this number; but remember we must have *variety*. If this number of our paper does not please him, we don't know what will. Our reply to "Niagara" was not dictated by any such motives as he attributes to us; and our readers shall in due time possess the desired information on the subject of corn crops.

Look out for the next number of the Farmer on the 1st of February. Our printers have agreed to be very punctual this year, and it will be seen they have made some improvements in the quality of their work.

How to Sustain County Societies.

Those who desire to see their County Agricultural Societies increase in numbers, and in spirit and usefulness, should take pains to *increase the circulation of agricultural papers* among the farmers of their county. In no other way can the object be so easily gained. All experience and observation have shown that *reading farmers* are the only ones that can be relied on to sustain and carry forward these grand means of improvement. Take your horses, then, ye friends of agriculture, and spend a day or two in calling on the farmers of your town or county, and induce them *all* to become reading farmers—they, or their children, will thank you for it hereafter. ☞Remember, the price of this paper is only *forty cents* per year, for five copies or over; and there is an extra team now on the lead!

Orleans County looking up.

A letter from a post-master in Orleans County, containing a list of new subscribers and remittance, says, "In reply to the inquiry in your paper respecting this county I would state, that the report of our Fair, and the proceedings of the Agricultural Society, was not published until this week—a copy will be sent you soon. I can only say, that we are improving. We had a much better exhibition, and every way a more interesting Fair, this year than any former one; and in fact, all that seems to be wanting to make our society all that its friends desire, is one or two good leaders, and a person who can wield the *pen* as well as good farmers do their tools."

The Silk Question settled.

The Testimony of One Hundred and Fifty Witnesses; or, The Report of the Proceedings of the National Convention of Silk Growers and Silk Manufacturers, held in New York, Oct. 13 and 14, 1843. Published under the direction of the American Institute, by Saxton & Miles.

The above is the title of a large pamphlet of 80 pages, for a copy of which we are indebted to some friend. In addition to the report of the sayings and doings of the Convention, it contains a large number of letters from persons in different parts of the United States, engaged in the culture and manufacture of silk, and embodies a vast amount of information relating to this very important business. Many facts of great interest were elicited at the Convention, some of which we shall make room to insert in our next; in the mean time we advise every person at all interested in the silk business to obtain a copy of this work as early as possible. It can be procured through the booksellers and periodical agents—price 25 cents.

"The Lowell Offering."

We have received the second number of the fourth volume, of this interesting periodical. Most of our readers are aware that this is a monthly literary Magazine, which for three years past, has been edited and written by the female operatives in the *Lowell Cotton Mills*. It is owned and published by Misses Curtis and Farley—Miss Farley having charge of the editorial department. The work has a very neat appearance and is conducted with such ability as to elicit the praise of literary critics both of this country and Europe. It is stated that about *seventy* young ladies actually employed in the mills, have been contributors to its pages, and none but those thus employed are allowed to contribute! Where else in the wide world can the like be seen? Who that possesses a true American heart does not say God speed to such an enterprise? But independent of its peculiar claims on account of its authorship and elevating influence, the intrinsic value and literary merit of the Lowell Offering entitle it to liberal patronage, and render it richly worth its cost. We hope that some of our country friends will be inclined to encourage the Factory Girls, and benefit their own families by subscribing for the Offering. The price is only *one dollar* per year, and any Post Master will forward the money.

Wheat and Chess—The Doctrine of Transmutation almost proved!

No question connected with agriculture has provoked such frequent and long-continued controversy as—Whether wheat does or does not turn to chess? To the man of science this question appears, upon the face of it, perfectly absurd; and yet many men of great intelligence and observation, and probably full one-half the farmers in the land, are firm believers in the doctrine of *transmutation*. The readers of the Old Genesee Farmer will remember how severe and protracted was the war of words on this question 7 to 10 years ago; and from that time to this scarcely a month has elapsed without some one or more of the agricultural papers being engaged in it. If this doctrine is true, it certainly is capable of demonstration; but notwithstanding large rewards have been repeatedly offered for such evidence, none has been produced. Two years ago, J. J. Thomas, then associate editor of this paper, (see vol. 2, p. 84,) offered *one hundred dollars reward* for such demonstration as farmers often say they have seen or *heard of*; such, for instance, as a stem or single plant bearing both kinds of grain, without being the result of art, or in some way a hoax or imposition. No application has yet been made for this premium; and as we have recently seen some intimation in a southern exchange paper that a person is preparing to compete for it, we take this occasion to renew the offer.

The nearest case of demonstration that has come to our knowledge is the one described below. This, but for an *unfortunate oversight* on the part of the inventor, would have been quite conclusive to the minds of many. We have no doubt but that this is a fair specimen of all the "positive proofs" that ever have been, or will be, exhibited for the purpose. Ed.

CHESS AND WHEAT.

I am not going, Mr. Editor, to inflict on you any speculations upon this much mooted subject, which philosophizing minds consider so well settled, and which reason and common sense commend to my mind, as entirely correct; yet, I yearly observe cases so difficult of solution, that if I did not firmly believe it impossible for *calves* to turn into *sheep*, I should believe in the doctrine of the transmutation of wheat into chess. But to my story. I had the honor of being appointed one of the Judges upon agricultural implements, at the late state Fair, at Rochester, and being engaged on the morning of the first day in receiving and arranging the various articles as they arrived, I observed a dense cluster of persons very earnestly engaged about some object; and supposing it to be caused by the examination of some curious article for exhibition, I was induced to make one of the number; when a farmer of my acquaintance called out "L., here is a *poser* for you." Upon en-

tering the ring I found a very grave and gentlemanly looking man with a nice little oval pasteboard box and cover containing a head of wheat, in about the middle of which was one of the *spikelets* or *setts* missing and its place occupied by a spikelet of perfect *chess* containing five or six grains. As the wheat head was rather longer than the box and was a little bent to get it in, I attempted to get it out, when the owner at once interferred, fearing, as he said, that it would be injured among so many persons—that he had come a long way with it, to exhibit to the *knowing ones*, and to forever settle this long agitated and much vexed question. He was finally induced to put it into my hands, and on applying the magnifying glass to it the appearance was perfect; the *peduncle* or stem of the chess came from and was attached to the central stem of the wheat head—naturally and at the place where a spkelet or sett of kernels should have grown. It was a "*poser*" truly. I exclaimed, "*Eureka*" (I have found it) and was on the point of starting half mad with the discovery, to the tent of the executive committee, when on turning the head over, there was the appearance of *the end of the chess stem projecting through among the wheat setts on the other side!*—On getting hold of it and gently pulling it, the chess sett moved; which was done backward and forward several times, to the apparently utter astonishment of the owner and all the true believers present, which I could not but think was real and not feigned. He said it could not be; but on being convinced beyond cavil, he looked as blank as though he owed a quarters rent and had no means to pay it. I was in so great a hurry at the time, that I made no inquiries how he procured it, or where he came from. The deception was quite perfect to common eye-sight. I cannot conceive that it naturally grew there by any accidental lodging or commingling of the two species, and I can conceive of no means by which the appearance could be got up but in supposing that some person must have removed the wheat grains, and pierced the wheat stem with a fine needle and passed the chess stem through, which was as small as a fine cambric thread, and that the Devil that prompted the imposition led him to forget to cut it off on the opposite side.

Thus vanishes another *proof* that wheat turns to chess.

L. B. LANGWORTHY.

Greece, near Rochester, Dec. 1843.

Agricultural Agency in London.

P. L. Simmonds, 18, Corn-hill, London, keeps an Office for the purchase and sale of all kinds of agricultural books and publications, implements, seeds, &c. (See advertisement on last page.) Any of our friends desiring business done in the great Metropolis, we advise them to entrust it to Mr. Simmonds. From the manner in which he has done business for us, we are confident he will give satisfaction.

Simmonds' *Colonial Magazine*, edited and published by Mr. S. monthly, price 2*s.* 6*d.*, is especially recommended to the notice of colonists.

Mr. Remsen and his Durhams.

P. A. Remsen, Esq., late of Genesee Co., whose fine cattle we have frequently had occasion to mention, has removed to Baltimore Co., Maryland, and taken 20 head of his finest Durhams there. The cattle were driven the whole distance on foot by his excellent herdsman, *via* Pennsylvania. A letter recently received from Mr. Remsen informs us that they were 40 days on the way, and reached there all in good health and condition. He is located six miles from Baltimore, and is well pleased, thus far, with his new home. We regret to lose such a man, and such a herd of cattle from Western New York; and we congratulate the farmers of Baltimore Co. on their acquisition. We commend friend Remsen to the special regards of our friends of the American Farmer. If they can show us a more hospitable, warm-hearted, and public-spirited gentleman, or a better herd of cattle, in that region, we should like to be there to see. By-the-way, we did hope to visit Baltimore and Washington the past month, but were disappointed.

The Learned Blacksmith, Elihu Burrit, of Worcester, Mass., has issued a prospectus for a religious and family newspaper, to be called the *Christian Citizen*. It is to avoid sectarian and controverted tenets, and will devote particular attention to *self-cultivation*. Success to him.

Erratum.—In this number, col. 2, page 2, line 23, for "25 bushels of charcoal" read 52, &c.

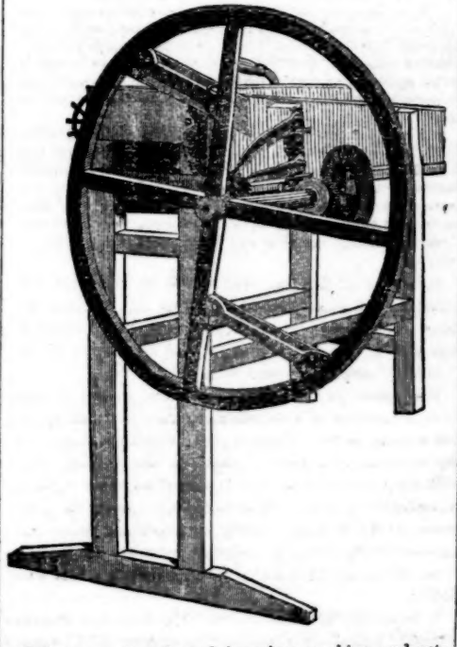
NEW STRAW-CUTTERS.

We had supposed that the inventive genius of man had become satisfied with its contrivances for cutting fodder, but at the late Fair in this city we observed, as usual, quite a number of machines for the purpose, each more or less original in construction, and each presenting some new claims for public favor. Several of them are manufactured in this city. We give representations of two, and others will follow when the cuts are furnished.

Webb's Patent Straw-Cutter.

This machine presents much that is new, and is in some respects superior to most others. It operates by means of a crank and fly-wheel, combined with a set of levers, as seen in the engraving. It has only one knife, which is straight and easily sharpened. It works easily and expeditiously, and costs less than most other machines of its size and efficiency. These are manufactured by Cheney & Hunter, of this city, and sold at the Seed Store, at $15 each.

Richardson's Patent, 1st Premium.



This is a well-made and ingenious machine, and cuts with great rapidity. It has two straight knives, placed on a fly-wheel, on the English plan, but the mode of gearing and feeding the machine is new. (We think that with a little alteration of the gearing, so as to give more power and less speed, the machine would work easier, and cut quite fast enough.) It was awarded the first premium at the State Fair. It is made by Robert Perkins, at Rochester, and for sale at the Seed Store,—price $20.

Chillicothe, Ohio, Dec. 16.—The number of hogs that have been slaughtered here for exportation, up to Wednesday last, exceeded *fifteen thousand*; and the number of beef cattle, to the same period that have been put up, was about twelve hundred.

AGENTS WANTED.

Several young men, of intelligence and integrity, might find pleasant and profitable employment in obtaining subscriptions for this paper, in parts of the county with which they are familiar. Will not some enterprising farmer's sons spend a few weeks in this business during the winter.

"Bommer's Method of Making Manure" — Imposition and Falsehood exposed.

Our readers have doubtless all heard of the *patent* method of making manure, claimed as the invention of George Bommer, of New York. Most of the agricultural papers of this country have spoken highly in its favor within the past two years, and especially for the past few months; but we have refrained from occupying our columns with the subject, for several reasons. In the first place, the manner in which the pretended invention was "got up" savored strongly of the *humbug*, and our suspicions were excited against it. We hold that the light of science, like the sun, should *shine for all;* and no man of liberal mind will, at the present day, seek to monopolize, for private gain, a discovery in the science of agriculture. Secondly, we have been confident that such knowledge would not long be kept secret, and if the discovery is really valuable, it will soon be known and practiced, without paying fifteen or twenty dollars for the privilege—patent or no patent. Thirdly, we doubt whether the "method" will be found of much advantage to farmers in Western New York, and most parts where our paper circulates. But in accordance with the request of an esteemed correspondent, and our promise last month, we proceed to give such information as we possess on the subject, including some recent disclosures.

Mr. Bommer states that

"This inventron is the fruit of many years of exertion and chemical labor, and the result of repeated and various experiments.

"The secret of the invention to make the manure is accurately described and specified in my method secured by patent. The preparation of said manure is very simple and easy, and every farmer, by following my method, can exactly count upon certain success.

"This manure is a composition of animal, mineral, and vegetable substances; consequently designed by nature for the nutriment of plants.

"We may, therefore, abandon for the future the partial use and application of every kind of merely stimulating manure, such as lime, plaster of Paris, ashes, &c.

"The merit of my method essentially consists in the following important points:

"1. In being able to reduce, in a short time, all kinds of straw and ligneous weeds to a rich, unctuous, and durable manure—such as wheat straw, barley, rye, buckwheat and other black grains; stalks of Indian corn, rice, and other plants; dried or green potato tops, leaves, stalks, and roots of all kinds of plants; green or dried seeds, green rushes, sea-weeds, sea-rushes, heather-broom, stubble—in fact, everything belonging to the vegetable kingdom, and a great many other things lying about farms, which are often allowed to go to waste. Even the ground itself may be converted into the best manure, or compost.

"2. In the combination or alliance of fecundating substances, the use of which, when separated, would not and could not produce the desired effect.

"3. In the production of a very considerable quantity of factious water, which, when combined with other ingredients, forming lees, furnishes the farmer with a fertilizing liquid, the commixture of which, in either vegetable or

mineral substances, gives a manure of the richest kind.

"4. In the production of a quantity of nitrate of lime and caustic potash, of ammonia and saltpetre—four substances which modern chemistry has found to contain the most fecundating properties possible. * * *

"As this is my property, secured to me by patent, I hereby give notice, that the pamphlets of my "Method" are all signed in my own handwriting, and sealed, and can be obtained only of myself, or of my agents authorized for this purpose; and that every method circulated or sold by any other persons, I declare false and counterfeit.

"To facilitate the purchase of the Method, the price is fixed at the following exceedingly moderate rates:

For gardens, of any extent,	$6
For farms, under 200 acres,	10
For farms from 200 to 400 acres,	15
For farms over 400 acres,	20
For plantations, of any extent,	25

"For this small sum, the Method becomes the property of the purchaser, for his own use for ever.

"The application of this system is very simple, and the process plainly explained in my method; but if any one of the purchasers should meet with any difficulty in its application, or should not realize the results that this method offers, they may apply to me for the instructions necessary in order to a complete success in the operation. If there should be a final failure, (which has never yet occurred,) the purchase-money shall be restored.

"GEORGE BOMMER."

We had an opportunity for personally inspecting this manure at the Fair of the State Society at Albany, Sept. 1842. We give an extract from the report of a committee, with the introductory remarks of the Editor of the Cultivator:

"We invite attention to the annexed report of Dr. Beck, on Bommer's method of preparing manure. From a careful examination of the specifications and directions furnished us by Mr. Bommer, as well as from a personal examination of the process, from the forming of the heap to its opening, we are convinced that the method must prove valuable, and the manure so prepared of the best quality. There are many farms on which immense quantities of coarse grass, thistles, sedge, flags, and other weeds, are annually grown, of which no use can be profitably made; all these, and with them the large piles of straw which are heaped round many barns to cause them to decay, may by this method be expeditiously and cheaply converted into the best of manure; the cost of the materials which the farmer will have to purchase being only from 15 to 20 cents per cord, and the labor only such as is necessary to form a compost heap of any kind.

'*Report on Bommer's Process for making Manure.*

'At the request of Mr. Bommer, the undersigned were present, on the 14th of September, at the preparation of the materials used by him for making the above manure. As Mr. Bommer's process is patented, it will of course not be expected that the committee can go into details further than what he himself makes public. They have, however, no hesitation in stating, that the materials mentioned in his specifications were all used; that the experiment was in every respect fairly made; and that the whole is evidently conducted on the most approved chemical principles.

'Two heaps were prepared; the first made of dry materials, principally straw of various grains, and probably weighing about 1,000 pounds; the second was composed of ligneous vegetables, dry and green—such as corn-stalks, potato-stems, thistles, and various other weeds. This weighed probably about 450 lbs., and was propped against the first heap.

'The fermentation was discontinued Sept. 23, when the heaps were opened for exhibition. The committee examined them on the 8th of October, and are quite satisfied that the result is a satisfactory one. The heap formed of 1,000 lbs. dry straw was found to contain by measurement 225 solid feet, or one cord and three quarters, estimated to weigh 4,000 lbs. The material furnished must prove a valuable manure; and the more so, as it employs many articles now worthless or deleterious. In all matters of this nature, experience is of course worth more than mere theory; but it will be a matter of great disappointment if a process combining, as this does, an application of the most correct chemical principles with the employment of the most efficient agents, does not in due time become a favorite with the farmer.

'T. R. BECK, Chairman.'"

We have seen a number of reports of experiments by those who have put the "Method" in practice; all going to prove that rapid fermentation and decomposition of vegetable substances is produced by this process, and that valuable manure is formed thereby. We give an extract from a communication by Gerret Houwenhoven, of Flat-Lands, L. I., in the November number of the Cultivator:

"Perfectly satisfied with my experiment and its results, I have put up fixtures near my barn yard for the purpose of preparing large quantities of this manure; and within the last two months I have made three heaps, which have yielded me between 200 and 300 loads of excellent manure. The last heap was composed entirely of 100 loads of sedge grass, nearly dry, with which I intermixed 40 loads of swampy matter, such as exists on my farm. All my outlay in purchasing ingredients to form the lye for the last heap amounted to between $20 and $30; and in disbursing this trifling sum, I have made a heap of manure which I would not dispose of for $250.

Mr. Bommer asserts that a "*majority* of the ingredients" requisite for making the "lees" can be found at hand on almost every farm, and cost "nothing;" but from this extract it will be seen, that the *minority* for preparing one heap (a large one, it is true) cost the operator between 20 and 30 dollars—a sum which Western farmers will not think very "trifling" to them, whatever it may be considered on Long Island. These chemical ingredients, which are used for producing fermentation and to add strength to the manure, are not made known publicly; but from what we have seen, it appears that they consist in part of potash, salt or saltpetre, and lime.

In addition to the expense of materials, another item of considerable importance to be taken into the account is, the *labor* attending the process. A writer in the Southern Planter, who has purchased the *right*, says that it is necessary to add a very large quantity of water to the heap during the process of preparation and fermentation. If the materials are dry, they will absorb about 100 times their weight of water before decomposition will be effected. This would require a large amount of labor on some farms, and should be borne in mind by all who think of making the experiment.

☞ *Interesting Disclosures.*

In a recent lengthy circular, published in the Albany Cultivator and several other papers, Mr. Bommer holds the following language:

"In order to prevent the frauds and to counteract the manœuvres of some rapacious individuals, always ready to invade the rights of others, I will serve them up to the agricultural public as they present themselves; and in this I count upon the support of the press, who are also interested in denouncing to the public those who meditate injury to them. (!)

"Finally, it should be known that all copies of the Method, for the northern and eastern States, are signed and sealed by myself, and those of the southern and western States by Abbott & Co.; that any method embodying our instructions, which should be circulated under any other name, will be considered as false and counterfeit, and that those who make use of it will be prosecuted according to law. (!)"

In view of all this, our readers will be somewhat surprised, as well as amused, to learn that *Mr. Bommer has never obtained any patent right for his pretended discovery, and that he is not the original author or inventor of the "Method" which he has made so much noise about!*

We noticed in the American Farmer, several months since, an account of a successful experiment in making *patent* manure, on the "Bommer plan," which was claimed as the invention of a French gentleman named Baer, who, with his partner named Gouliart, advertised to sell *rights* or manufacture *heaps* of manure to order, on nearly the same terms as Mr. Bommer. Their advertisement states that the cost of the chemical materials necessary for making "one thousand cart-loads" of manure, is only about four dollars.

It seems that Mr. Baer disputed Mr. Bommer's claim to a patent; and after investigating the subject, the Commissioner has ascertained that the discovery of the *method* is not new, having been made in France some years ago by M. Geoffroy, and consequently neither of the claimants are entitled to a patent. Thanks to the Honorable Commissioner—the ardent and indefatigable friend of agriculture: may he long occupy the station which he fills with so much ability and usefulness to the country.

In conclusion, let it be understood, that in our opinion the Bommer method of making manure will be found highly valuable to farmers, especially in the older sections of the country. And notwithstanding the process is not "secured by letters patent," it has not yet been disclosed to the public; and the gentlemen have a perfect right to sell the knowledge, and bind the purchasers to keep it secret, just as long as they are able to do so—which, we think, will not be a very great while.

The past Season—Pears, Apples, Grapes.

The great depth of snow which filled many of our highways last spring, and required us to shovel a passage for the traveler when we ought to have been ploughing, kept the whole growing season back. Some plants seemed to recover from the delay, however, while others continued far behind the usual time. Cherries were very late, and peaches nearly a month in the rear. Some autumnal apples, which commonly drop six weeks earlier, are now hanging on the trees.

To make up for this shortness of the season, I left out several sorts of pears almost a month beyond the usual time of gathering; and, I believe, with decided advantage, though I ran the risk of their being frosted. Our winter apples were treated in the same manner. The early gathering of such fruit has generally proved unfavorable, as far as my experience extends; for though the Gravenstein, Fall Orange, and Fall Pippin should be taken in, yet the Swaar, Spitzenburgh, and others, are improved by hanging as long on the trees as the danger from frost will allow—with us, about the 25th of the 10th month; in other localities earlier; but later near the banks of our lakes.

The season here is generally short for the Isabella grape; and though it is considered fine, yet we know it to be finer and sweeter when it basks in a warmer autumnal ray than ours. This season, therefore, has not been favorable to its ripening, neither has it been so to the Burgundy, or even to the York Madeira, though both are earlier than the Isabella.

The European grape, like the gooseberry, in some seasons, is nearly destroyed by *mildew*. What is this substance? A fungus? a wart? or something else? A cure has been proposed; but it is no small task to irrigate vines enough for a large family. Another mode was practiced by W. Wilson, of Clermont; and this was, to elevate the top of the vine on the end of a long pole. At that height, the grapes were exempt from mildew.

It appears that the mildew is confined to a zone, commencing at some distance from the surface of the ground, and terminating only a few feet above. In unfavorable seasons, this zone has descended within one foot of the earth; and probably it extends further *upwards*, at the same time, though I have not ascertained this particular. We want more experiments in regard to this matter. A Burgundy vine, however, not ten feet high, *on a living shrub*, has produced fair grapes for a number of years; and, encouraged by this fact, I have young elms growing to be appropriated to this purpose.

In some of the earlier volumes of the Genesee Farmer, I published remarks on mildew, showing that grapes lying on the ground* were exempt from it in the worst seasons. One instance was very remarkable: A vine had grown, leaning over a rail of the trellis, and then bent down on the opposite side. When it came into bearing, the grapes near the ground, at both ends, were fair; while those on the *middle* of the vine, which rested on the trellis, were ruined by mildew. D. T.

Greatfield, 11 *mo* 10, 1743.

* The practice, however, is not commended, as the fruit becomes soiled, and more apt to rot.

[*From the American Agriculturist.*]

The writer of the following excellent article upon preparing and packing provisions for the foreign market, making sales, &c., went out to England a short time since for the express purpose of making himself more particularly acquainted with this important branch of our trade. He has considerable experience in this business, and to any house extensively engaged in it, he could render very essential service.

The Provision Trade with England.

Darien, Oct. 2, 1843.

Experience begins to show, that the provision trade with England must be the great trade of the country. She must, within a very few years, draw a large share of her supply of *cured* provisions from America, and in a great degree from the United States. As the whole subject of the provision trade is new in this country, I propose to give some hints on the best method of sending out, and selling in the English markets. On a former occasion, as you are aware, I published the method of curing and preparing pork and beef. The article was extensively circulated, and, I trust, did a good deal of service. In this article I shall confine myself principally to butter, cheese, and lard.

BUTTER.—Until there is more system in the method of putting up, and care in making, butter cannot be sent into the English market with any degree of safety, except as grease butter; and as that must be bought at a very low rate in your market, (say upon an average of four cents,) to pay the shipper a profit, it follows, that as we now do business our butter must be consumed at home. I should not recommend any person to ship, until there is a modification

of the tariff, so that butter can go in at a much smaller duty than is now levied. If our farmers would only take pains in putting up their butter, it would make a difference of a great many hundred thousand dollars with their profits. If they would work out all the milk, salt with pure salt, and put up in firkins made of thoroughly seasoned oak, there would be no difficulty in having it keep well in any climate, and insure for it a ready sale.

CHEESE.—This will soon become quite an article of traffic, and the American article may, in a great measure, take the lead in the English market. It is so cheaply made in our dry climate, and can be so soon cured and sent into market, that the farmer will find it the most profitable of his dairy products. Here, however, great care is required, or he will lose. The cheese must not be too large, —from 40 to 50 pounds, when well cured, is the favorite size; and they must be deep, mildly flavored, well pressed, and so cured as to keep their shape. A great deal of cheese is spoiled upon the voyage, simply because the whey has not all been pressed out. The hold of a ship is generally very warm, and the cheese gets heated, and, unless well cured, materially injured. In preparing it for market, casks are preferable to boxes, because it will keep quite as well, if properly packed, and saves expense, as each package has to be weighed into the custom-house, and it costs as much to weigh a box as a cask; besides, it is easier handled in casks. In packing it into casks, two things are of prime importance: 1. That all the cheese in the cask be as near alike as possible in color, taste, and weight. 2. That there should be a thin board, the size of the cheese, between each one. Half-inch would be thick enough. Some put only a narrow strip of board, but this indents itself into the cheese, and injures them. When nothing is put between them, the cheese get stuck together, and are injured in separating.

LARD.—Lard is worth so much for oil, and oil is in such good demand, that the export will cease in a short time, or nearly so. A good article of bladdered lard will generally pay. Sometimes also in kegs, and a very fair article in barrels. The bladders should be hogs' bladders, and cleaned when taken from the hog. The process is very simple. The bladder is first blown up to its utmost capacity, then turned, washed, returned, and put into a strong, clear brine for twenty-four hours; changed again into fresh brine, and in about two days it will be bleached perfectly white, and the end sufficiently cured to keep after the bladder is filled. Much depends upon getting the bladder well bleached. When filled, it is turned inside out, suspended in a tub of cold water, and filled from a cask into which the lard has been strained long enough to get below the boiling point. As soon as filled, it is tied up, and thrown into a large vat of cold water, to cool. When put up for market, casks of the size of flax-seed tierces should be used, (smaller would be preferable,) and the bladders carefully packed between and among layers of clean chaff. In Ireland they use oat-hulls. Great care should be takee that they are kept dry, and do not get burst in the package. None but the very best lard should be put into bladders.

METHOD OF SELLING.—The manner of doing business now is, to consign the article to some house in Liverpool. After the consignment is come to hand, it is in due time landed, weighed, &c., and taken into the custom-house if bonded, which is the usual course. The consignee employs a broker to sell. He advertises it for sale at public auction, at some future day. In due time, it is put up and sold.

Some little experience in that market satisfies me, that such is not the best way. Nine times in ten it is in the power of a few dealers to combine and have it at their own price. Besides, the expenses are materially enhanced; because you are compelled to pay all the broker's charges extra. The true way for American dealers is, to establish an agency in Liverpool or London, to whom they should send their consignments. He could push them into the market as the price would warrant, and in a very little time have his channels which would be sure and safe. Until such a thing is done, our people will do business very much to a disadvantage.

T. C. PETERS.

Fattening Properties of Charcoal—Try it.

A gentleman fattened a turkey in a month, by placing him in a box some four feet square, made as dark as it could be and allow ventilation, and feeding him with six kernels of corn per day during the time. In addition, he had plenty of pulverized charcoal, and pounded brick, and fresh clear water.

"What stuff," says one—"Humbug," says another—"Book farming," says a third.

Not too fast, my friends. I do not know that the turkey was fattened, because I did not see it; but this *I do know*, —a gentleman who had great faith in the use of charcoal to feed all fattening animals, once took two pigs of the same litter, and as near alike as he could get them. One he fed with clear meal; the other he fed with half meal and half pulverized charcoal. At the end of the month, the one fed with the charcoal had gained perceptibly upon the one fed with clear meal. Desiring to try the experiment thoroughly, but being compelled to leave home for some time, he put his pigs in the especial care of his hired man. On his return, some four or five weeks after, he found, very much to his surprise, that his meal pig was decidedly ahead of his coal pig. They had been fed just alike, and his instructions followed to the letter—except the man had made a mistake, and fed the meal and coal to the wrong pig! Will some of our young friends try the experiment on one or two of their fowls, and give us the result? Let it be done faithfully, and fairly.

T. C. P.

Extract from a Traveler's Note-Book.

In walking down the eastern shore of Staten Island, from the Quarantine to the Light-house, I was struck with the contrast between the alluvial deposits of this section of the sea coast, and those of the limestone region of Western New York. Here the incumbent soil is rich in mineralogy; bowlders of every variety, from the unyielding granite to the delicate serpentine, the old and new red sandstone, the hard glistening gniess, the soft shale, and the conglomerate. Instead of the deposit of calcareous clays, here a continuous subsoil of quartzose sand cries aloud for that alluminous and vegetable covering which nature has so lavishly deposited in Western New York. Here stable manure, leached ashes, the sweepings of the City of New York, sea-weed, and perhaps shell marl, supply those aids to vegetation which the component lime and vegetable matter so bountifully supplies to our western soils.

This island, particularly its eastern shore in the vicinity of the Narrows, at all hours covered with innumerable vessels, offers an enchanting prospect of city, bay, and ocean, to the inmates of the cottages located here in the numerous acclivities. The architecture of these cottages has a fragile appearance, as if intended to be occupied in summer only, everything elaborate or artificial in finish being studiously excluded—even the little Gothic church is in strict keeping with the cottage *ornee*. A more substantial brick mansion, the permanent residence of Mr. Townsend, editor of the N. Y. Express; a splendid and truly picturesque English cottage, with gardens, the summer abode of Mr. Aspinwall, one of the merchant princes of New York—are exceptions to the improvised, fragile habitations of this delightful section of Staten Island. Here, on the grounds of Mr. A., I saw a patch of turnips growing in great perfection: this sharp quartzose sand goes to the life of those insects, which never fail to disfigure the crop on our heavy calcareous loams.

I left this delightful island impressed with the belief that this was the spot, above all others, (Rhode Island excepted,) for the wealthy man of taste to enjoy the *rus in urbe* most delightfully; but that for all the purposes of profitable farming, particularly in these last days of canals and railroads, the sea-coast must yield to the interior. Here all rural economy must henceforth be prosecuted by men of wealth, and by him only, as the most healthy, cheap, and intellectual of human recreations.

S. W.

Nov. 4th, 1843.

Fire in the Boston Conservatory.

Early on the morning of Dec. 6th. the beautiful public Conservatory at Boston was discovered to be on fire. It was under the charge of our scientific friend J. E. Teschemacher, and our readers will sympathise with him, in view of the irreparable loss and disappointment he has sustained by this calamity. The Transcript says:

"The whole building was filled with a dense smoke for more than two hours, and with an atmosphere of 15 Fahr. pouring in through the broken glass, the whole stock of beautiful and rare plants were inevitably lost. The splendid collection of Camellias, the best and choicest in the country, in full bloom and bud, numbering some thousand plants, not one of which can be restored, present an aspect this morning that is really painful to behold. The proud Peacocks, the beautiful Pheasants, presented to the establishment by the Hon. Mr. Webster, on his return from England, and the rare and splendid African Cranes, all lie dead, having been suffocated by the dense smoke.

To Mr. Teschemacher, the indefatigable actuary, who has devoted the labor of years to his charge, and who had many important and novel experiments in process, in the treatment of plants, the loss cannot be computed in dollars and cents. The house had been remodeled under his supervision, and every plant was in the best possible condition, systematically arranged, at great labor, and in the very height of perfection, all of which are entirely destroyed."

The fire is supposed to have been occasioned by a defect in one of the flues.

To Young Men.—Self-Education.

But who are the privileged class in our country, where all men are equal—where we have no kings, no princes, no nobility, no titles! Look about you, I say again—look about you, and judge, every man for himself. Are they not the BETTER EDUCATED, every where—and the children of the better educated—throughout the land? Go abroad among your neighbors, let all your acquaintances pass in review before you—and see if those who are better off in the world, more influential and happier than the rest, (other circumstances being equal,) are not all —all, without one exception, better educated than the rest. It is not a college education that I speak of here; it is not even a school education, obtained before a man sets up for himself; but it is education at large, in the broadest and best sense of the term—the education that anybody may give himself—*anybody at any age*. Again, therefore, I do appeal to yourselves to call to mind any of your acquaintance who has got ahead of his brethren—who is looked up to, not only by them, but by others; and my life on it you find him a better-educated man—self-educated, or otherwise, I care not—better informed about some things which *they* do not consider of importance. I go farther: so perfectly satisfied am I of the truth of this doctrine—of the importance of things which the uneducated regard as trivial, that I would have this taught as a fundamental truth—namely, that if two persons were to begin the world to-morrow, both of the same age and the same character, having the same friends, the same prospects, and the same health—he who was the best acquainted with the multiplication table would beat the other in the long run. I would have it generally understood, as another fundamental maxim in morals, if not in religion, that every sort of knowledge is of some value to every person, whatever may be his character, station, or prospects. I do not say that it would be of equal value to every person, or that every sort of knowledge is alike *necessary*. I merely say, that we cannot acquire any useless knowledge.

But, say those who appear to have understanding and judgment in these matters, we have no time for study—we, the mechanics. No time for study! What! have you no time, when a huge, ponderous body is to be lifted—no time to fix the lever and the fulcrum—to prepare the inclined plane, or hitch the tackle? Is it economy of time to do that with your hands, which might be done with the simplest piece of machinery? Would you set your apprentices to work, your journeymen, and yourselves, to lift and carry, by main strength, what a child might push forward on a roller, if you would but take time enough to fix the roller? What would you say of a man who, instead of using the plough, as others do, should persist in digging a large field with a fire-shovel, because he had never been brought up to the plough? What if a man who, instead of splitting his logs for fire-wood with a beetle and wedge, were to saw them in two lengthwise, with a key-hole saw; declaring all the while, that as for him, he did not pretend to know much about mechanics—that a key-hole saw was good enodgh for him—and as for the beetle and wedge, and other out-of-the-way contrivances, for his part, he had no belief in them!

Would you not laugh at him, as a poor economist of *time*, and a very poor reasoner? and would he not be likely to coutinue a very poor man? Yet he would say no more than you say, every man of you, when you declare you have no time for reading, no time for study, no time to improve yourself, each in his own particular trade, by stepping out of the circle he has been brought up in. How do you know but there is some shorter and easier way of doing *all that you do* in your workshops and factories? Be assured that there is a shorter and an easier way for all of us—that there is not one thing we do in which improvements may not be made. Have you not the proof continually before your eyes? Are not the *master workmen* the *owners* and the *employers* of other men?—are they not those who have the best use, not of their *fingers*, but of their *thinkers?*—*John Neal.*

CITY INTELLIGENCE OFFICE,
No. 7, EXCHANGE STREET.

WHERE Farmers can at all times be supplied with help. Men, Boys, and Girls, can be sent to all parts of the county, at short notice, and at fair prices. The charges for supplying help will be small, and the business promptly attended to.

J. ROBINSON.

Rochester, Oct. 14, 1843.

ENGLISH NEWS.

We have received our usual English papers up to Dec. 4th, but they contain nothing of much importance. The demand for American wheat and flour had been dull, but was advancing a little. Pork had ceased to arrive, but the trade in beef was rapidly increasing, with fair chance for profit. Large quantities of Cheese had been received, but sales were dull, because of poor quality. At a public sale in London, it is stated that "upwards of 7000 packages were offered, of which not a sixth part sold, although the importers expressed a desire to meet the buyers in a liberal spirit. Prices ranged from 28s. to 30s. for damaged and out of condition, up to 38s. to 40s. for fine, whilst a few lots of good went at 45s. to 48s. per cwt., but the quantity of the latter was too insignificant to affect the average result, which we fear must be very discouraging to the senders.—The stock unsold is quite 8000 packages."

Flour and Wheat by the Erie Canal.

The Albany Advertiser gives tables showing the amount of flour and wheat received at the Hudson River by canal, each month of navigation for the past five years. The receipts of flour for the season just past exceed those of any former year by 268,571 brls, and exceed those of the year previous by over 500,000 brls.; but the receipts of wheat shows a decrease of more than 100,000 bushels. This change in the relative proportions of wheat and flour is attributed to the increased facilities for grinding at the West, and the diminished cost of transporting flour compared with wheat.

The sum of the report for each year stands thus:

	1839.	1840.	1841.	1842.	1843.
Flour, *brls.*	967,212	1,805,137	1,624,845	1,561,395	2,073,708
Wheat, *bus.*	580,957	1,395,194	761,976	930,265	827,346

Mistakes Corrected.

If any subscribers did not receive all their papers for the past year; or, if any who have paid for the present year, fail to receive it properly, we hope they will request their post-masters to inform us. We believe all of them are willing to do such favors when requested, and thereby save us unnecessary postage. *Post-masters in Canada*, will please enclose their letters for us to the Post-master, Rochester, otherwise we are charged with the United States postage.

Food for Thought.—Farmers will find something to *think* about in the articles of our associate, D. L., commenced last month. They combine the results of science with experience, and should be read twice over, much thought upon, and then put into practice as far as circumstances require or permit.

Book Farming.

"I pity the stupidity of the man who thinks that if we use books, we must close our eyes against the light that is beaming upon us from other sources; or that we must become mere theorisers, and the victims of ruinous experiments. What! does a man loose his own common sense, his prudence and his judgment, whenever he takes up an agricultural paper, or opens a book upon husbandry? Cannot one make himself acquainted with the doings of others, without loosing his power to judge whether it would be well for him, in his circumstances, to copy their examples? Our brains are not so weak as this. The knowledge acquired from books does not make us all mad. But if it did, there would be more zest and true enjoyment in the learned mad-man's course, than in that of him who has learned out, and who thinks that books cannot make him wiser. I ask what book-farming is? Common book-farming is, learning by means of books, new facts, opinions, results of experiments, modes of operation, and the using such parts of the information as can be turned to profitable account in our individual situations. If this be folly, we are content to be called fools. An agricultural paper will be worth to you every month, if not every week, more than its annual cost."

Farmers' Boys.—There is a wholesome change going on in public sentiment, which promises to do much for the improvement of the country and the condition of the people. We mean the change which is taking place among the young in relation to the great work of tilling the soil. A few years ago, and the young men left their fathers' farms as soon as they could get away from them—and the fathers themselves not unfrequently encouraged them in it. A hard hand and a sunburnt face were deemed poor recommendations in life; and more "*genteel*" modes of getting a living were sought by the young. But they are beginning to look at the matter in a different light. The dull times through which we have passed, lately, have opened their eyes to the fact, that after all there is nothing like a farmer to stand through all times, as they are quite content to stay at home. The result will be, that our farms will be better cultivated, and produce more—that large farms, which are not half cultivated, will be divided, and well husbanded—and that we shall have a large and virtuous population scattered all over our fertile hills.—*Nashua Telegraph.*

The dignity of labor.—From whence originated the idea that it was derogatory to a lady's dignity, or a blot upon female character, to labor; and who was the first to say sneeringly, "Oh! she works for a living!" Surely such ideas and expressions ought not to grow on Republican soil.—The time has been when ladies of the first rank were accustomed to busy themselves in domestic employment. Homer tells us of princesses who used to draw water from the springs, and wash with their own hands the finest of the linen of their respective families. The famous Lucretia used to spin in the midst of her attendants; and the wife of Ulysses, after the seige of Troy, employed herself in weaving until her husband returned to Ithaca.—[Lowell Offering.

Monroe County Notice.

The annual meeting of the Monroe County Agricultural Society, will be held at Rochester, on Wednesday, January 3d, at the office of the Secretary, at 10 A. M., when the officers will be elected for the ensuing year, and other important business will be transacted.

H. M. WARD, Secretary.

New-York State Agricultural Society.

The Annual Meeting of the New York State Agricultural Society will be held at the Society's Rome, in the Old State Hall, Albany, on the 3d Wednesday (the 17th) of January, 1844, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Persons intending to compete for the Society's Premiums on Field Crops, Essays, &c., are reminded that their statements and essays must be sent to the Recording Secretary, Albany, before the first of January.

Presidents of County Agricultural Societies, are also requested to transmit the Reports required by the statute, to the Recording Secretary, previous to the Annual Meeting.

LUTHER TUCKER, Rec. Sec.

Albany, Dec. 1, 1843.

Review of the Markets.

New York, Dec. 28.—*Flour* is steady at 4 62½ to 4 69. Shipments to England were made the past week at 4 62½. *Wheat* is $1; *Rye*, 62½, *Barley*, 50; *Corn*, northern, 45 to 48; *Pork*, mess, brl. 11 00 to 11 50; *Beef*, 4 12½ to 4 50 a 6 32 to 6 44; *Lard*, lb. 6½ to 7; *Butter*, 13 to 15 c.

Cincinnati, Dec. 20.—*Flour* continues firm; sales at canal 3 70 to 3 72 and inspection. We also notice sales of City Mills at 3 81, delivered at the river. *Wheat* is firm and very quick at 75 cents. *Pork*, mess, 7 75 to 8 00 per barrel.

Warsaw, Ill.—*Pork*, cwt. 2 25 to 2 50.

Rochester, Dec. 30.—The roads have been so bad of late, that very little produce could be brought in, and prices are, of course unsettled. The weather is now colder, and gives some promise of sleighing. *Pork* continues in good demand, at 3 50 to 4 00. *Beef* has been sold freely by the quarter, at 2 00 to 2 25. *Poultry*, also, appears plenty for the holidays, at 4 to 5 cents per lb. In *Wheat*, there is nothing doing, except by a few custom millers—price steady at seven shillings. *Corn*, *Oats*, &c., are in good demand at quotations.

ROCHESTER PRODUCE MARKET.

Wheat,	$	88	*a*	Hay, ton,	$6	00	7	00	Eggs, doz.	15	
Corn,		44	*a*	Wood, cord,	2	25	2	50	Tallow, lb.	7	
Barley,		31	00	Salt, bbl.,	1	25	1	31	Beeswax,	25	
Oats,		18	20	Hams, lb.,		5		6	Wool,	25	35
Flour, (ret.)	4	00		Pork, bbl.			11	00	Sheep Skins,	38	50
Beans,		75	1 00	" cwt.	3	50	4	00	Green H'ds, lb.	3	4
Apples,		18	25	Beef, "	2	00	2	50	Dry Hides,	6	
Potatoes,		20	25	Lard, lb.,		6			Calf skins, gr'n.	6	
Cloverseed,	6	00		Butter,		12		14	do. dry,	12½	
Timothy,	1	00	1 25	Cheese, cwt.	5	00	6	00	Jan. 1.		

IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL WORKS, on sale by P. L. SIMMONDS, *Agricultural Agency Office*, 18, *Cornhill, London.*

1. JOHNSON ON FERTILIZERS; published at 12s., reduced in price to 8s.

(One of the best and most popular works on Manures extant.)

2. THE INSTRUMENTS OF AGRICULTURE. By J. A. Ransome. Illustrated by numerous highly-finished Wood-Cuts. Price 9s.

3. THE FARMERS' ALMANAC, by Johnson & Shaw, for the years 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844—200 pp. 1s. each.

(An invaluable hand-book, full of sound practical information, and useful to Agriculturists at all times and in all places.)

4. AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTLY FOR YOUNG FARMERS. By C. W. Johnson, Esq., F.R.S. 1s.

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